

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

This Amendment cancels Claims 1 and 3; and amends Claims 2, 4-5 and 10-11. Support for the amendments is found in the specification and claims as originally filed. In particular, support for Claim 2 is found at least in canceled Claim 3. No new matter would be introduced by entry of these amendments.

Upon entry of these amendments, Claims 2, 4-6 and 10-11 will be pending in this application. Claim 2 is independent. Claims 5-6 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing and reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, in light of the remarks that follow.

Claims 1-6 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. To obviate the rejection, Claim 1 is canceled and Claim 2 is amended to recite "within a pressure range of from 0 Pa to less than 100 Pa".

Claims 1-2, 4, (5-6), and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,211,733 ("Fukao") alone or in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,680,045 ("Osafune").

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that Claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Final Rejection at page 5, lines 17-18. Claim 3 is incorporated into independent Claim 2, and the claims are amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of withdrawn Claims 5-6 after independent Claim 2 is found to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application.

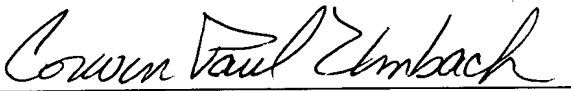
Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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